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Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister kindly enlighten us, Sir, on the progress made with regard to the mills referred to by him?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : The Amaravathi Sugar Factory is putting up buildings and the erection of machinery will take place very soon. The Ambur Sugar Factory has just started installation of buildings.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : With the blessings of four Ministers . . .

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Of three, the fourth being absent.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Thank you for the information.

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : And it is also progressing satisfactorily. The Madurantakam Sugar Factory is caught up in disputes and it is not making progress.

Sri A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : இந்த மூன்று ஆலைகளுக்கும் வேண்டிய நிலங்களைப் பதிவு செய்தாய்விட்டதா ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : இதுவரையிலும் நிலங்கள் பதிவு செய்யப்படவில்லை.

Sri V. V. RAMASWAMI : மதுராந்தகத்தில் அமைக்கப்படப்போகும் சர்க்கரை ஆலை மதுராந்தகம் தாலூகாவில் அமைக்கப்படுமா, அல்லது மதுராந்தகம் ஊரில் அமைக்கப்படுமா அல்லது மதுராந்தகம் தாலூகா படாளத்தில் அமைக்கப்படுமா என்பதை அறிய வேண்டுகிறேன்.

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : அதுதான் இப்போது சண்டையில் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. எங்கே அமைப்பது என்பது இன்னும் முடிவாகவில்லை.

Co-operative Joint Farming Societies

* 79 *Q*.—Sri M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the number of Co-operative Joint Farming Societies started during the year 1956–57 and 1957–58?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Two Co-operative Joint Farming Societies, viz., Valandur Joint Farming Society in Madurai district and Sivaganga Joint Farming Society in Chingleput district were registered in 1956–57. One society, viz., Nathagoundanpudur Joint Farming Society, Coimbatore district, was registered in 1957–58.

Sri M. ETHIRAJALU : அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் மதுரை, செங்கற்பட்டு, கோயம்புத்தூர் இந்த மூன்று ஜில்லாக்களிலும் கூட்டுறவுப் பண்ணைகள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். மற்ற ஜில்லாக்களிலும் இம்மாதிரிப் பண்ணைகள் ஏற்படுத்துவதற்குத் திட்டம் இருக்கிறதா ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : இந்தக் கேள்வி 1956–57, 1957–58-ம் வருடத்தில் ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பதைப்பற்றிக் கேட்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. 1958–59-ல் இன்னும் அதிகமான பண்ணைகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன, அதாவது, வடாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் மேய்ச்சேரி என்ற இடத்திலும்,

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திருச்சிராப்பள்ளி ஜில்லாவில் பெரியபாளையம் என்ற இடத்திலும், நீலகிரி ஜில்லாவில் பக்காபுரம் என்ற இடத்திலும், செங்கற்பட்டு ஜில்லாவில் லத்தூர் என்ற இடத்திலும் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that in spite of his best efforts, in spite of the best efforts of the department and in spite of the publicity and propaganda made, we were able to have only seven societies in the course of three years?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Yes; facts speak for themselves.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. Minister indicate, Sir, the general conditions for the formation of the Joint Farming Co-operative Societies and the facilities that will be afforded for the formation of such societies?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : So far as facilities are concerned, loan and subsidy are given to each one of them for purchase of bulls, sinking of wells, installation of pumpsets and so on.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, the Hon. Minister said that he took objection—not strong objection—to a previous question (The Hon. Sri R. Venkataraman : No, no) for the second or the third question previously. I am remembering all that . . . May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Industries whether he is satisfied with the working of these societies or whether he can give information as to how far they are progressing and what is the response from the people, i.e., the agriculturists?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, it is very difficult to make people change their old systems and methods. So, new ideas take some little time to spread and secure adherence to them. Therefore, the progress is no doubt slow but the progress so far as it has been made appears to be satisfactory.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Has the Hon. Minister received any report from Chingleput that co-operative farming there has not been working satisfactorily and that the yield has gone down?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Actually, on records we have not got anything of the kind but, generally, I receive vague complaints from others unconnected with the societies.

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI : நாதகவுண்டன்புதூரில் ஒரு கூட்டுறவுப் பண்ணை ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருப்பதாகத் தெரிகிறது. அதிலிருந்து என்ன லாபம் கிடைக்கிறது ? இதனால் இனிமேல் ஏற்படுத்தப்போகும் பண்ணைகளுக்கு அனுகூலம் இருக்குமா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : இந்த ஸொஸைடி ஆரம்பித்து ஒரு வருஷம்தான் ஆகிறது. அதற்குள் இதிலிருந்து லாபம் கிடைக்கிறதா அல்லது நஷ்டமா என்பதைச் சொல்லுவதற்கில்லை.

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Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : On a point of order, Sir. In reply to a previous question of the hon. Member Sri T. P. Srinivasavaradan, the Hon. Minister said that he received vague complaints from others unconnected with the societies. As legislators—whether M.L.A.s or M.L.C.s—we take interest—though not directly connected with a particular thing—in the administration of all matters, though our profession may be different. Therefore, I want to know whether it is right on the part of the Hon. Minister to say that complaints come from persons who are not connected with it. We may not be directly connected with it, Sir, but as legislators we are interested in eliciting as much information as possible. I leave it at that, Sir.

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM : The Hon. Minister did not refer to the hon. Members of this House, but to people outside.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Let the Hon. Minister reply. Let not the non-official Minister reply.

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, the question was whether any complaint had been received from people in Chingleput that this society was not functioning properly. I said that on record, there was no complaint but that we heard vague complaints from persons unconnected with the functioning of the society. If any complaint comes from the members of the society, it has got to be investigated. But, if it comes generally without specific facts and figures, then we say ' vaguely '. I do not think I meant to cast any aspersion or slur on the Members of the House. Not at all.

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM : On a point of information, Sir. May I know why the hon. Member Sri Raza Khan took it that the Hon. Minister's remark referred to hon. Members of this House?

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Who will answer it?

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Sir, I am not competent to answer it. My point is this. The Hon. Minister may be right in what he has said. But ordinarily we may take it that the Hon. Minister's remarks refer to that particular hon. Member who puts the question. However, now that he has clarified, I withdraw my remarks. Let not Sri Purushotham get too much worried. The Ministers are capable of replying. 3-30 p.m.

Sri K. M. RAMASAMY GOUNDER : Sir, so far as we are able to gather, some of these societies are more or less defunct or are not functioning properly. They have been rather in the hands of extremely self-seeking people, so much so, may I request the Government to have strict supervision over them, arrange to get periodical reports and get their work reviewed every now and then?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : This is the category of criticism I have received, I said. (Laughter.)

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SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware that a prominent M.L.A. has made this remark that co-operative farming in Chingleput is far from satisfactory?

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : He means the Leader of the Opposition?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Please repeat your question.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware that one of the prominent M.L.As. has made the remark that the working of the co-operative farming society in Chingleput is far from satisfactory? Is he aware of that?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I am not aware, Sir. Now, in fact, I shall try to find out if there is any truth in such a statement. What I want to assure the House and the people in the State is that we are making a great experiment and that it is just in the initial stage when we should not try to approach the experiment by giving expression to such vague complaints as are made without verifying their substance. That is my point.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI : Are there any elements opposed to the idea of co-operative joint farming society?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is a matter equally within the knowledge of the hon. Member and not a Member of the Government alone.

Pearl fishery at Tuticorin Port

* 80 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which the pearl fishery was started at Tuticorin Port this year;

(*b*) the value of pearls so far collected; and

(*c*) the amount of expenditure so far incurred by the Government on this industry?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (*a*) The pearl fishery off Tuticorin from March to May 1958 was started on 3rd March 1958.

(*b*) The Government sell their share of pearl oysters (2/3 of the total collected) in auction. The other one-third is given to the divers who sell them as they like. Pearls are extracted from the oysters by the purchasers and sold by them. So, the Government have no information about the total value of the pearls collected. But we are in a position to state the value of oysters sold by Government. It is Rs. 4·65 lakhs.

(*c*) The expenditure incurred was Rs. 55,945 besides the one-third share of oysters given to the divers.